IFW AF 12823

OVE Opcket No. AF01159

FASP714US

JUN 0 4 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re **PATENT** application of:

Applicant:

Angela Hui, et al.

Application No.:

10/045,354

For:

AN INNOVATIVE METHOD OF HARD MASK REMOVAL

Filing Date:

November 7, 2001

Examiner:

Khiem D Nguyen

Art Unit:

2823

## **REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 14, 2004**

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.